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Subject: The Morning Headlines from InsideEPA.com -- March 21, 2019



REDEFINING EPA: Overhauling an agency and its mission -- Complete coverage

March 21, 2019

Latest News

Ruling Bolsters Plaintiffs' Push For GHG Review Of BLM Leasing Program

A federal judge is requiring the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to consider the cumulative greenhouse gas impacts of its oil and gas drilling lease approvals in Wyoming in a landmark ruling that plaintiffs say could ultimately force the administration to review the climate impacts of its entire oil and gas leasing program.

Setting States' Path, New York Eyes First Dioxane Drinking Water Standard

New York's health department is preparing to propose the nation's first enforceable drinking water standard for 1,4-dioxane, a ubiquitous contaminant at waste sites and in drinking water systems, likely setting a path for other states to follow as one industry attorney says it may be the next "headline chemical."

EPA Bid For Stricter State Oversight Clashes With Plan To Cut FY20 Grants

EPA in its fiscal year 2020 budget request vows to ramp up oversight of states' federally delegated environmental programs in response to concerns from its inspector general (IG), but state regulators are telling Congress that the agency's FY20 proposal to slash its grants to states could cripple their ability to administer those programs.

Despite FY20 Infrastructure Cuts, Wheeler Calls Drinking Water Top Priority

EPA Administrator Andrew Wheeler says he will make drinking water improvements a top priority for the agency, including infrastructure upgrades and measures to boost the quality of water supplies, even as he is seeking to cut funding for many EPA infrastructure programs and is downplaying climate change as a water supply threat.

Environmentalists Urge EPA To Scrap Weaker New Coal Plant GHG Plan

A large coalition of environmental groups is urging EPA to abandon its proposal to revise new source performance standards (NSPS) limiting greenhouse gases from new coal plants, saying the plan is unlawful because its GHG limit is weaker than what existing coal plants can already achieve, among other reasons.

EPA Touts Prospect Of Rules As It Shifts Formaldehyde From IRIS To TSCA

EPA is defending its decision to shift its long-running Integrated Risk Information System (IRIS) assessment of formaldehyde to the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) program's list of existing chemicals slated for high-priority evaluation, just weeks after telling lawmakers it was dropping the IRIS assessment because it was not a priority.

Daily Feed

Quote-Unquote: Talking about GHGs, mercury, the CWA's jurisdiction rule

Court temporarily halts some oil and gas drilling on federal lands, pending assessment of climate-change impacts.

5th Circuit schedules argument in power plant ELG case

The appeals court will hear environmentalists' challenge to the Trump EPA's two-year delay of the effluent limits on May 1.

Stricter ship-fuel sulfur limits on track, industry official says

New international ship fuel sulfur limits that apply to U.S. ships will go into effect as planned Jan. 1 and without serious economic impacts, a top shipping industry official says.

Ewire: Trump drops FERC nominee over coal bailout opposition

In today's Ewire: Two high-profile coal producers and Energy Secretary Rick Perry objected to former DOE General Counsel David Hill being nominated to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

Trump has 'unprecedented' failure rate in APA cases

While the federal government often wins about 70 percent of Administrative Procedure Act cases, the *Washington Post* cites analysis showing that the Trump administration has a 6 percent "win rate."

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